Patent Application Attorney Docket No.PC10734A certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1430 Alexandria, y.A 22313-1450 on this day of December 2003 (Signature of person m Irene Grantham on mailing) (Typed or printed name of person)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

FRANK ROBERT BUSCH ET AL.

Examiner: San Ming R Hui

RECEIVED

DEC: 2 9 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

APPLICATION NO.: 09/881,322

Group Art Unit: 1617

FILING DATE: JUNE 14, 2001

TITLE: THE USE OF GROWTH HORMONE

SECRETAGOGUES TO TREAT

SYSTEMIC LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS

AND INFLAMMATORY BOWEL

DISEASE

Mail Stop RCE

Hon. Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

## RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 and § 1.121

This paper is being filed in response to the final Office Action mailed October 16, 2003 in the subject patent application. This response is being filed together with a Request For Continuing Examination (RCE). A response to the final Office Action is due on January 16, 2003. Accordingly, this response is being timely filed.